

Safety Watch

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He, who does not prevent a crime when he is able, encourages it.

VEHICLE BREAK-INS / THEFTS

Remember to lock your vehicle doors always when you are driving, parked or out of your vehicle.

Take anything visible out of your vehicle and put it into your trunk or take it with you. If you put your belongings in the trunk, do so before you get to your destination. Pull over to a safe place and put your belongings in the trunk. Once you have reached your destination, it is too late to make the transition. Someone may want the valuables or belongings that you are putting into your trunk.

If you buy any electronics equipment, go directly home after you have put them into your car. Please don't stop and eat. Someone may have followed you from the electronics store, hoping that you will stop somewhere. Electronic equipment can be very expensive, in the hundreds or thousands of dollars. This is why it is well worth a thief's time to follow you and to find out if you are easy prey.

Start a notebook or file with serial numbers of all of your equipment. Include a picture of the equipment with your files and anything else that could help identify the equipment. If you need someone's help to start a notebook, file, or to mark your belongings, let me know. Youth groups and Scouts are always willing to help with community assistance.

SEXUAL PREDATORS

Watchers, here are some sites to find out if there are registered sexual predators living near you. But as I have always told you, there are some who are not registered. Please keep your children near you or create a responsible 'buddy-system' for them. When your child is going to a friend's house, know as much as you can about the people at the house. Don't expect your small child to know how to fend off predators, although you need to teach them in a capacity that they can understand in relation to their age and learning ability. **You must be at the front lines of the battle for your child.**

<http://services.georgia.gov/gbi/gbisor/disclaim.html>

National Sex Offender Public Registry

<http://www.mapsexoffenders.com/>

www.familywatchdog.com

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SIGNS

Neighborhood Watch Signs are being installed in the subdivisions that have met with me or another Crime Prevention Officer. Some Neighborhood Watch coordinators have told me that their signs have been stolen. When your sign has been installed, please make sure that the two bolts are either bent or threads filed to deter theft of the sign. Also mark the back of the sign with your subdivision's name. Use an engraving tool or other permanent means. If you need help with this, I have an electric engraving tool and I will come out and let you use it.

Also if you need the engraving tool to mark your belongings, so that they can be identified if stolen, I can help you with that.

Many have asked when their signs will be installed. Please be patient. I cannot guarantee the day they will be installing in your area. **But they are being installed.**

Remember - don't depend on the sign to take the place of a **Neighborhood Watch**. If you have not begun an active Neighborhood Watch, do so. The neighbors in your subdivision need to work together. **That is the whole idea behind Neighborhood Watch**. A sign will not keep your neighborhood safe. **Your program** will keep the neighborhood safe. If you need help beginning a **Watch** let me know. I will help you.

Thank you and I appreciate your hard work. You are making a difference,

Rick

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